

CARMEL J. ANGELO  
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**COUNTY OF MENDOCINO  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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March 27, 2012

Honorable Ken Salazar  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar,

We are writing in support of permanently protecting the Stornetta Public Lands either through legislation or through use of the Antiquities Act. We would also like to invite you to visit this amazing place so that you can experience its scenic and scientific values firsthand.

The Stornetta Public Lands are adjacent to the California Coastal National Monument, the Manchester Beach State Park, and the Point Arena Lighthouse. The area is known as one of the most ecologically important parts of the northern California coastline, hosting a significant population of the federally endangered Point Arena mountain beaver. It is also an essential part of the Garcia River watershed with the river supporting major populations of salmon and steelhead trout. The area has scenic waterfalls, "blowholes" where geysers of salt water shoot upward from caves in coastal bluffs, and abundant bird life including large flocks of elegant Arctic tundra swans. This entire area is also rich in Native American culture.

The Stornetta Public Lands are open to the public for daytime activities including hiking, fishing, bird and other wildlife watching, and nature photography. Permanently protecting this area will ensure that residents and visitors alike can continue to enjoy these activities.

We would be honored to have you visit this special place and engage in a conversation with our Board about how to best protect the Stornetta Public Lands for future generations.

Respectfully,

John McCowen, Chair  
Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

Copy: Rep. Mike Thompson

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